



PATENT
02581-P0423A WWW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicants | Horst Dittrich, <i>et al.</i> |
| Serial No. 10/002,248 | Filing Date: October 26, 2001 |
| Title of Application: | Trocar Sleeve With A Variable Sealing Opening |
| Group Art Unit: 1732 | |

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement by Applicants

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GROUP 1732

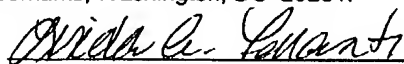
Dear Sir:

As a means of complying with duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR §1.56, Applicants list the following references (copies of the listed patents and papers enclosed).

| Foreign Patent Documents | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---------|
| Exam. Initials | Document No. | Date | Country |
| VB | DE 43 12 147 A1 | 4/14/1993 | Germany |
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Mailing Certificate: I hereby certify that this correspondence is today being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as *First Class Mail* in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks; Washington, DC 20231.

January 10, 2002


Linda A. Ferranti

Those references that are believed to be most pertinent are discussed in the specification of the above-identified application. The additional listed patents pertain in a general way to the subject matter of the application, but are not necessarily considered to be analogous prior art.

Respectfully submitted,

January __, 2002

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o 4/16/04

Date Considered



Examiner

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Dear Sir:

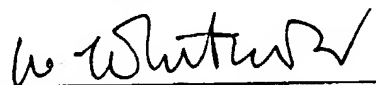
As a means of complying with duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR §1.56, Applicants list the following references (copies of patents enclosed).

| U.S. Patent Documents | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------|---------|------------------|
| Exam. Initials | Class/ Subclass. | Document No. | Date | Name |
| VB | 604/167 | 5,209,737 | 05/1993 | Ritchart et al |
| | 604/264 | 5,458,640 | 10/1995 | Gerrone |
| ↓ | 251/149.1 | 5,657,963 | 08/1997 | Hinchliffe et al |
| VB | 606/185 | 5,779,697 | 07/1998 | Glowa et al |

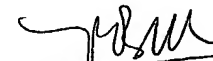
| Foreign Patent Documents | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|------|---------|
| Exam. Initials | Document No. | Date | Country |
| VB | 0 834 279 | 1994 | EPO |

Respectfully submitted,

October 26, 2001


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04/16/04
Date/Considered


Examiner

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